

# HISTORY OF CHEMICAL DEMILITARIZATION IN KENTUCKY



**1940s**—Blue Grass Army Depot begins storage of chemical weapons containing mustard agent.

**1960s**—Blue Grass Army Depot begins storage of chemical weapons containing nerve agent.

**1986**—Congress directs the U.S. Army to destroy the chemical weapons stockpile while providing maximum protection to the public, the environment and workers.

**1993**—Governor-appointed Kentucky Chemical Demilitarization Citizens' Advisory Commission is established.

**1996**—September. Blue Grass Chemical Stockpile Outreach Office opens. Congress establishes Assembled Chemical Weapons Assessment (ACWA) Program to identify and demonstrate alternatives to incineration.



**April**—The United States ratifies the Chemical Weapons Convention treaty, which directs all member nations to destroy their chemical weapons and production facilities.

**May**—ACWA begins public participation process known as the ACWA Dialogue

1997



**October**—Public law assigns ACWA responsibility for destruction of the chemical weapons stored in Kentucky and Colorado if alternative technologies are chosen.

**November**—Environmental Impact Statement concludes that neutralization followed by supercritical water oxidation is the preferred alternative to destroy the stockpile.

**December**—Final Environmental Impact Statement issued for Kentucky.

2002



**February**—Department of Defense selects neutralization followed by supercritical water oxidation as the official destruction method for Kentucky stockpile.

**June**—ACWA changes its name to Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives to reflect new role: overseeing destruction pilot plant projects in Colorado and Kentucky. Bechtel Parsons Blue Grass Team is awarded contract to design, build and operate the pilot plant.

**October**—Chemical Destruction Community Advisory Board is established.

2003



**January**—Public meeting held to solicit public input prior to application of environmental permit.

**March**—Research, development and demonstration permit application submitted to Commonwealth of Kentucky.

**July**—Initial pilot plant design completed.

2004



**February**—Intermediate design for the pilot plant completed.

**March**—ACWA and Bechtel Parsons Blue Grass Team start public involvement process for cost-reduction design options.

2005